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Parks and Recreation

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2728 East 171st Street
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To: Westfield Board of Works

From: Melody Jones

CC: Todd Burtron

Date: September 30, 2013

RE: Park Improvements as of September 2013

Dear Board Members:

Summer is coming to an end and the Westfield Parks and Recreation Department is also wrapping up projects and planning. Irrigation in all parks, round a-bouts and trails will be turned off next week. Drinking fountains will remain on until the last week of October.

Programing issued the second edition of the Grand Guide that shares programs and events from September until the end of the year. Youth programs continue to be the strongest area of interest. More adult programs are filling as well.

The Department is meeting with Reith Riley to review landscaping installations at 161st Street/US31 and US31/SR38. Maintenance of the highway landscaping will be the responsibility of the Parks Department.

PARKS

Grand Junction Park/Plaza

One additional property was acquired and added to the demolition contract. Utilities have been disconnected on all seven properties and the silt fence has been installed. Asbestos remediation will be conducted on 201 Park Street. Once this is completed demolition will begin. Construction Waste will still be able to meet the contracted project completion date.

We are working with Browning, Day, Mullins & Dierdorf and CSI-Signs to create information boards to be placed on the site to help share the vision for the Grand Junction Plaza.

Freedom Trail Park

The gate at Freedom Trail has been a continuous problem. A new timing device has installed and it is now being monitored. We believe this has fixed the problem

Quaker Park

The Splash Park was closed for the season the third week of September. The restrooms at Quaker are now year round.

Asa Bales Park

The last "Movies in the Park" was hosted at Asa Bales Park last Friday night. Attendance for the double feature was estimated at 200-300 people. It is believed the successful WHS football season may have hurt our attendance.

The restrooms at Asa will be closed for the season the week of October 28th.

TRAILS

Monon Trail

161st Street Tunnel:

Halverson Construction finished the project 3 weeks ahead of schedule. The road is open to the west.

Monon Phase 6 & 7:

On September 17th we hosted a public information meeting at City Hall regarding the changes in the plans for the Monon Trail from State Road 32 to 216th Street. We had nine in attendance and many of the City Councilors joined us later in the evening.

The changes include locating the trail on the west side of Wheeler Road; adding the cycle track from SR32 to 191st Street; removing the equestrian trail; and some drainage changes. The public was engaged and supportive.

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EVENTS

Voices from the Past

This year Voices hosted over 400 Westfield 2nd and 4th grade students, teachers and parents on Friday, September 13th. The walking historic tour in the Anti-Slavery Cemetery in Asa Bales Park and Old Friends Cemetery Park Was open to the public on Friday evening and Saturday. Now in its third year, we are happy to bring this great event to the community and help share Westfield's history. The partnership with the Westfield Playhouse and Westfield-Washington Historical Society makes this event possible. We are looking at extending the event an additional day next year to allow for more schools to take advantage.

Fire Side Tales

The first of three Fire Side Tales took place at the Council Circle in Simon Moon Park on Wednesday, September 18th. We had great weather and approximately 150 people were in attendance. Miss Vicki with the Westfield Library shared stories and craft activities with the children. We have two dates schedule in October; the 9th "Leaf Me Alone" and the 30th "Howl-o-ween". This activity is for young families.

Walk to School Day

Oak Trace Elementary will be participating in the National Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 9th. Mayor Cook will be walking with the children from Countryside Clubhouse to the school. Last year 2/3rds of the school children participated in the first Westfield Walk to School Day.

Grand Junction Derby

The Derby is set for Saturday October 5th from 3PM to 7PM. The event includes the derby race, tricycle race, kid's area, food vendors, Sun King Brewery and live music. The committee has been working hard and we are ready to go. We hope you will join us.

Westfield in Bloom Celebration is set for Thursday, October 3rd. This event recognizes all those people and organization that have been involved with any WIB activity in 2013. Wood Wind Golf Club donates their facility for the evening. We feel it is important to thanks all of those folks who have worked hard to make Westfield a better place to live.

Plans for **Westfield in Lights** are being finalized. The date is Saturday, December 7th. We are planning more entertainment on stage and other expanded offering. More details to come.

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